# Welcome to WebTA

**Supervisor Guide** 

(Draft)

An Introductory Manual Written and Presented by the NOAA Time & Attendance Services Office

# **Table of Contents**

Introduction: Timekeeping Roles and Responsibilities	3
Accessing WebTA	
WebTA Supervisor Main Menu	6
Certifying T&A Records	6
Rejecting T&A Records	
Printing Certified T&A Reports	11
Delegating a Supervisor	
Deleting a Delegated Supervisor	13
Reviewing Previously Certified Employee T&A Records	
Automated Leave Audits	15
Security Features	17
Changing Your Password	18
Logging Out of WebTA	19
Overview of Other Roles Within WebTA	
Additional Resources	21
Rules of Behavior.	Appendix A

# INTRODUCTION

One of the catalysts behind the upgrade to a web-based time and attendance system was the need to use a system that supported the roles and responsibilities of the main parties involved in timekeeping: the Employee, Timekeeper and Supervisor. Their respective *primary* responsibilities include:

# **Employee**

- Provide a written or electronic accounting of hours worked and leave taken by the established deadline each pay period.
- Provide supporting documentation for leave usage (leave slips, court documents, military orders, etc.) as required.
- Verify/validate timekeeping data submitted.
- Notify Timekeeper and Supervisor in a timely manner of any corrections needed to previous pay periods.
- Compare leave balances maintained in the timekeeping system (WebTA) with those maintained by the payroll system (NFC); notify Timekeeper and Supervisor of any discrepancies.
- Advise Timekeepers of approved changes to basic employee information (duty hours, tour of duty, alternative work schedules, etc.)
- Must agree to the terms and sign the Rules of Behavior for WebTA.

# **Timekeeper**

- Receive a written or electronic account of work and leave hours for all employees.
- Obtain supporting documents for leave usage.
- Ensure T&A records are submitted on every employee within processing deadlines.
- Maintain valid accounting tables within WebTA.
- Assist Time & Attendance Liaisons with corrective actions on rejected timesheets.
- Obtain effective dates from HRO or Supervisors of personnel actions affecting employees.
- Adjust employee leave balances and SCD dates as instructed by Leave Share Coordinator, HR
  personnel or Time & Attendance Liaisons.
- Prepare and submit corrected timesheets, as necessary.
- Resolve leave errors in a timely manner (5 pay periods).
- Discuss timekeeping questions and leave errors with Supervisors and Time & Attendance Contact Points and Liaisons.
- Add new users (not roles) within work unit to WebTA.

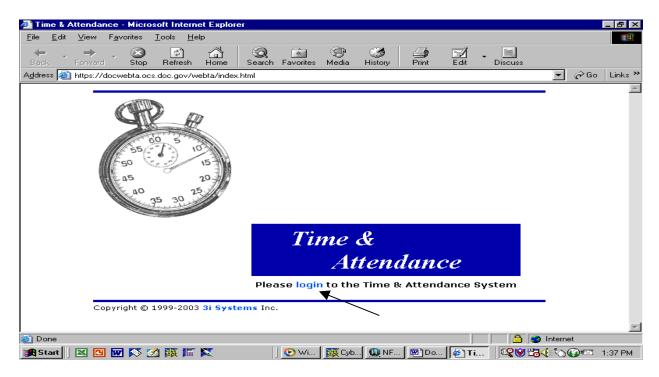
# **Supervisor**

- Establish Work Unit policies to manage timekeeping functions.
- Ensure accurate and complete T&A reports are submitted for each employee prior to the established deadline. Failure to complete this may result in non-payment of payroll to the affected employee(s).
- Approve (certify) the accuracy of hours worked and leave taken for all employees supervised prior to the established deadline each pay period.
- Sign the certified T&A report for all employees supervised each pay period and forward them to the Timekeeper for filing.
- Ensure certified T&A reports and supporting documentation are retained for 6 years.
- Provide Employees and Timekeepers time to carry out their timekeeping responsibilities.
- Ensure compliance with all pay, leave and timekeeping regulations and policies.

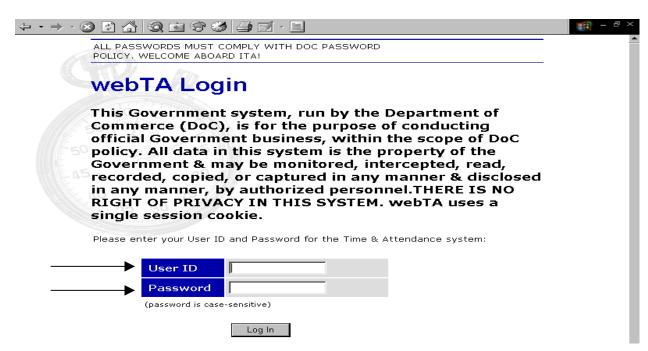
This WebTA Supervisor Guide is designed to build on the material outlined in the WebTA Employee Guide. A few sections have been duplicated for the convenience of the reader.

#### ACCESSING WebTA

**Launch** WebTA using **Internet Explorer 5.5** or higher (best choice) or Netscape 7.1 or higher by typing the URL address "<a href="https://docwebta.ocs.doc.gov/webTA/">https://docwebta.ocs.doc.gov/webTA/</a>" in the address box, and **depressing Enter**, or double clicking on the WebTA icon on your desktop. **Click Continue** at the **Certificate Name Check** screen. The following screen appears:



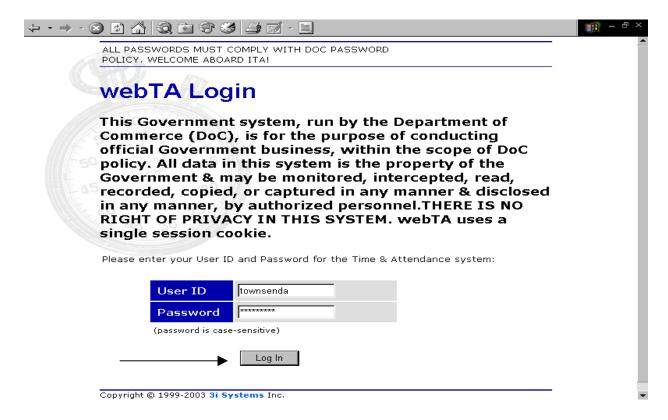
Click on login. The WebTA Login screen appears.



**Click** in the **User ID** box. Type your **User ID** with no spaces. Generally, the **User ID** is your last name followed by your first initial. If you share the same name with someone else in your agency, your **User ID** may be slightly different, such as your last name followed by your first and middle initials. Prior to conversion to WebTA, you will be notified of your exact **User ID** and initial **Password**.

**Click** in the **Password box** or **Depress** the Tab Key to move to the **Password** box. Enter your password, keeping in mind that the **password field is case-sensitive** (see section on **Security** for other requirements regarding passwords).

Your screen should look similar to the one below:



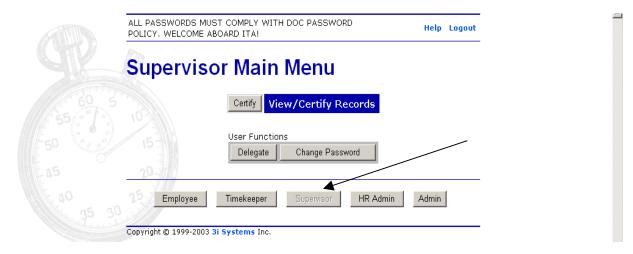
Click the Log In button or Depress the Tab key and Depress Enter.

There are **five levels of access within WebTA**: **Employee**, **Timekeeper**, **Supervisor**, **HR Administrator** and **Administrator**. At login, WebTA brings you into the system at your highest level of access.

This manual addresses the features of the Supervisor role.

# WebTA Supervisor Main Menu

As a Supervisor, you will have at least two roles within WebTA: that of Employee and Supervisor. To access the **Supervisor Main Menu**, click your **Supervisor** access button.

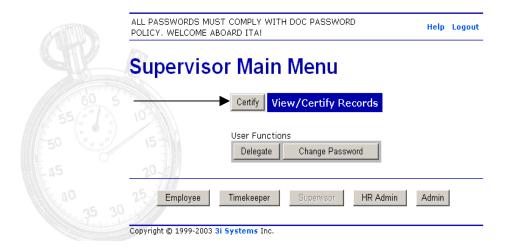


While there are very few functions for the Supervisor to perform within WebTA, they are critical to the payroll process. The Supervisor, or his/her delegate, must certify all employee records no later than 4pm Central Time the first Tuesday of each bi-weekly pay period. If the employee records are not certified, the affected employees will not be paid through the normal payroll process and payment may be partial and/or delayed if the employee must be paid offline. Additionally, if the employee is paid outside of the normal payroll process, a leave error is automatically generated.

As previously discussed in the Employee Manual, the data entry for hours worked and leave taken each pay period can be entered either by the Employee or the Timekeeper. Regardless of who performs that duty, the Employee retains the ultimate responsibility for verifying the information submitted. Once the T&A record is validated, the record is available for your certification.

# **CERTIFYING RECORDS**

To review and certify records, click on the Certify button in the Supervisor Main Menu.



The **Select Employee** screen appears. This screen provides you a listing of all the employees you supervise. Notice on the left there is a Status column to show you whether the Employee or Timekeeper validated the record.



Either method of validation is acceptable but if the Timekeeper validated the record on behalf of the Employee, the Employee is required to sign the hard copy of the certified record. Conversely, if the Employee validates his/her own record, no Employee signature on the hard copy is required. Until the electronic signature module is available and deemed acceptable by the Office of the General Counsel, Supervisors will continue to have to sign a hard copy of the certified T&A record.

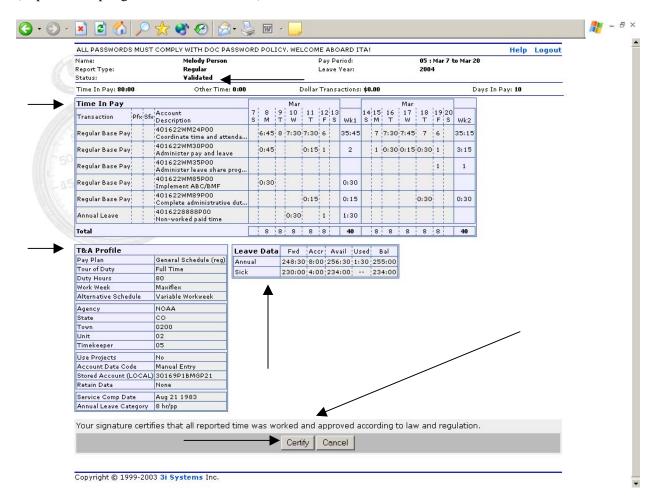
It is not possible to certify records that have not yet been validated by either the Employee or the Timekeeper. Once the record is certified, neither the Employee nor the Timekeeper can make changes to the record. If changes to the current pay period are required and the record is still available for modification (i.e., it has not yet been built and sent to NFC), you will have to decertify the record before any adjustments can be made.

To view or certify a T&A Record, **click** on the **Radio Button** to the left of the Employee Name, and then **click** on the **View/Certify T&A** button.



The Employee's validated T&A record appears and it reflects everything you need to determine if it is an accurate accounting of the pay period. In addition to the accounting of all hours worked, leave taken, and accounting codes charged, it also shows the leave balances, accruals and usage. Be sure to compare this leave usage against your records of leave approved for the employee for the pay period. Also, be sure to verify that employees have charged their time to the appropriate pay types and accounting codes.

Additionally, this summary shows you the **T&A Profile** for the employee. This is crucial in determining certain pay entitlements. For example, only employees on certain flexible schedules are eligible to earn and use credit hours, as there is no provision under the law for those on regular fixed or compressed schedules to earn or use credit hours. It is *imperative* that you understand the requirements of each type of work schedule. For review, you can easily access the Handbook on Alternative Work Schedules (http://www.opm.gov/oca/aws/index.htm).

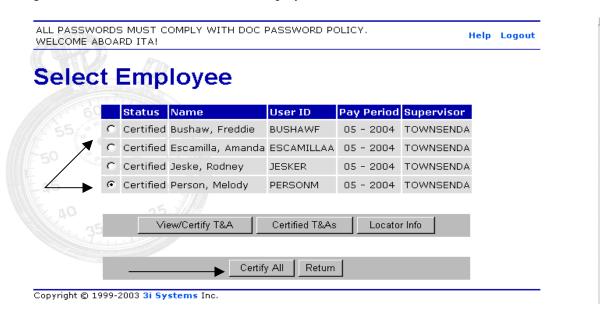


At the bottom of the screen, please note the **certification statement** that the Supervisor agrees to when certifying:

**Click** the **Certify** button at the bottom of the page to certify the record.

Once the record is certified, neither the employee nor the timekeeper can change it. It will now show 'Certified' in the status column (see screen below).

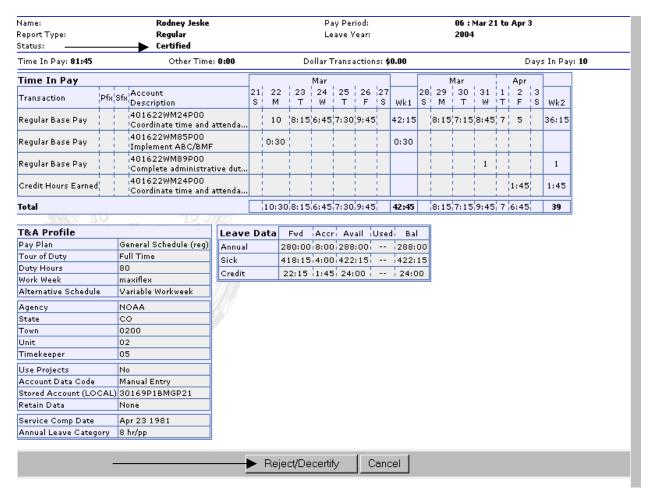
Records can either be certified individually as outlined above, or all at once by **clicking** on the **Certify All** button on the **Select Employee** screen as noted on the screen below. When using the **Certify All** feature, each record must still reviewed by the Supervisor prior to certification. It just eliminates the step of having to click on the radio button for each employee.



All certified records are added to the WebTA file that the Administrator (DOC) builds and sends to the NFC each pay period. In order to ensure your staff will be paid on time, it is critical that you or your delegate certify the T&A records prior to the deadline of 4PM Central Time on the first Tuesday of each pay period. Once the WebTA file for NFC is built, all WebTA records advance to the next pay period. It should be noted that any records on hold will be advanced to the next pay period a few days after the active records.

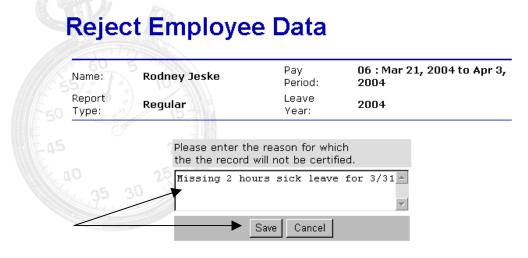
# REJECTING RECORDS

If, after reviewing the data, you wish to reject the record because you do not believe it is a complete and accurate reflection of the hours worked and leave taken in the pay period, or because there is an error in the type of pay or accounting code charged, go back into the certified record, scroll down to the bottom of the page and **click** on the **Reject/Decertify** button.



**NOTE:** It is an odd, temporary situation that causes you to have to certify the record before it can be rejected. This is a recent contractor change; we have requested that this be revised to allow rejection on the first pass.

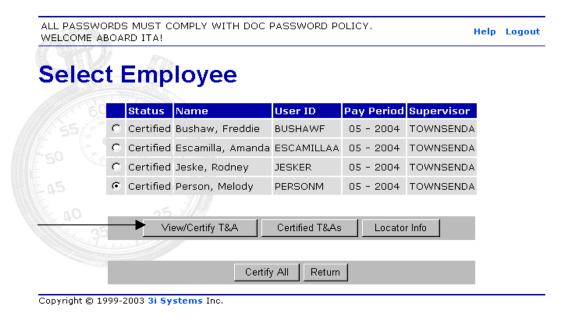
The **Reject Employee Data** screen will appear.



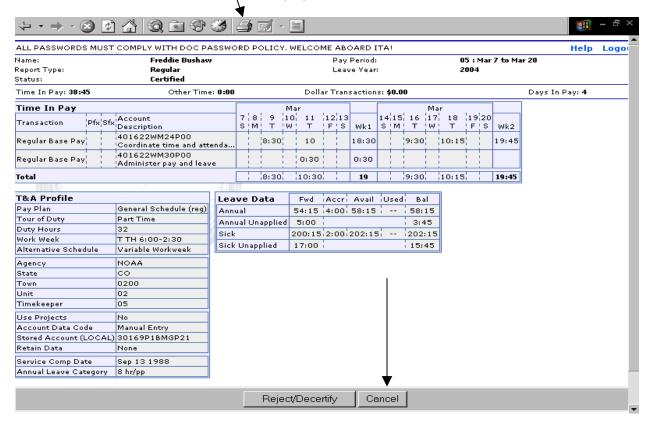
You can type a short explanation as to why the record was rejected. Once you save and exit this screen, an email notifying the Employee of the rejected T&A Record is automatically sent to the Employee as long as the email field on their locator record is completed. The Employee or Timekeeper must then revise the record and re-validate it so that it is ready for your second review and the certification process.

# PRINTING CERTIFIED T&A REPORTS

Once all records are certified, either the Supervisor or the Timekeeper must print a hard copy of each employee's record for the pay period. It is easy for the Supervisor to print the employee record immediately after certifying. To do so, simply **click** on the **View/Certify T&A** button again and now the certified T&A record for the selected employee will be displayed.



While in this record, **click** on the **print icon**. After printing, simply **exit the screen by clicking on the Cancel** button to exit the record without changing the certification status.

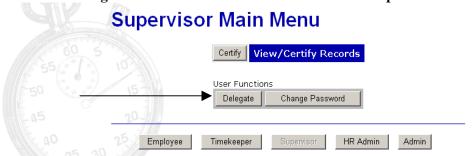


Pursuant to the Office of the General Counsel, the Supervisor MUST sign the hard copy, which is to be filed in the Employees' T&A file and maintained for 6 years. These screen prints must be completed before the WebTA file is built, sent to the National Finance Center, and the pay period rolls over to the next pay period. If you miss that window to print the certified record, you will still be able to print one from the historical record in the next pay period. However, since the historical record states Validated T&A Record, you will need to hand-mark it as certified and both the employee and the supervisor must sign the hard copy.

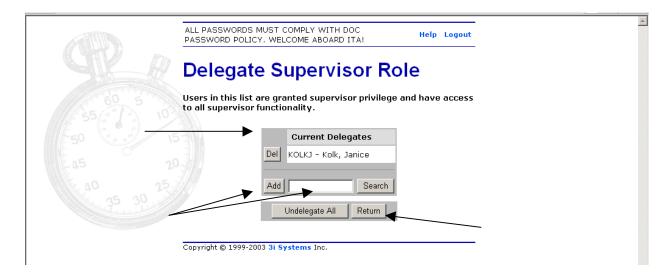
# DELEGATING A SUPERVISOR

Occasionally, you will not be available to certify the employee records prior to the established payroll deadline. Just as you would name an appropriate person as the Acting Supervisor for other duties, WebTA allows for you to delegate a supervisor to perform the necessary duties in your absence.

Click on the Delegate button on the User Functions line on the Supervisor Main Menu.



This action takes you to the **Delegate Supervisor Role** screen.



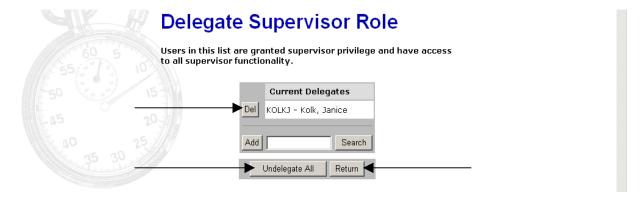
This screen will show you how many people you currently have delegated, if any. Additionally, by **typing** the **UserId** of an appropriate employee and **clicking** on the **Add** button to the left of the employee name, a new delegated supervisor will be named. The employee will remain a Delegated Supervisor until you delete the name from the list on this screen. While they are named a Delegated Supervisor, they have all the rights and access that you have as a Supervisor, while you retain all those same rights. **Click Return** to exit this screen and save all your changes.

Except in extremely rare circumstances, DOC and GAO policies do not allow Timekeepers to be delegated as Supervisors. To do so completely negates the security features built into WebTA.

Supervisors are reminded that while they can occasionally delegate another to perform the certification process to ensure timely submission of data, they are still ultimately responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the data submitted whether they physically certified the record or not.

# DELETING A DELEGATED SUPERVISOR

To **delete an** *individual* Delegated Supervisor, **click** on the **Delete** button to the left of the name you wish to delete from your list. To **delete** *all* your current delegates, **click** on the **Undelegate All** button.



**Click** the **Return** button to exit this screen and save your changes.

# REVIEWING PREVIOUSLY CERTIFIED EMPLOYEE T&A RECORDS

At any time, you have the ability to view previously certified T&A records for each of your employees.

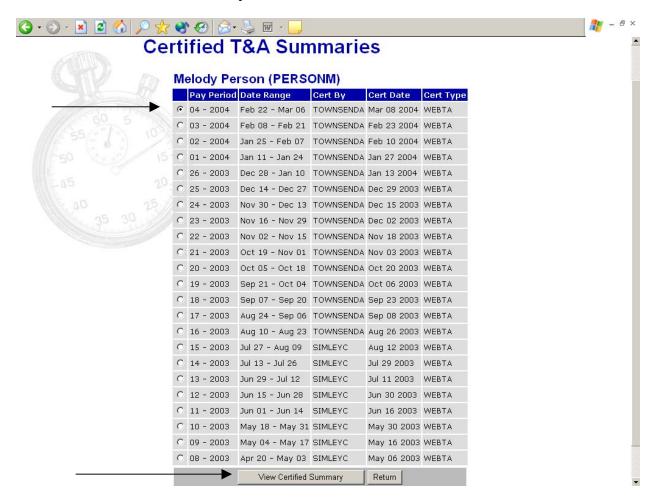


Click on the Certify button in the Supervisor Main Menu. This takes you to the Select Employee screen.

Simply click on the Radio button to the left of the appropriate employee. Then click on the Certified T&A's button.



The **Certified T&A Summaries** screen for the selected employee appears. Now **click** on the **Radio button** to the left of the pay period you would like to view and scroll down to the bottom of the page and **click** on the **View Certified Summary** button.



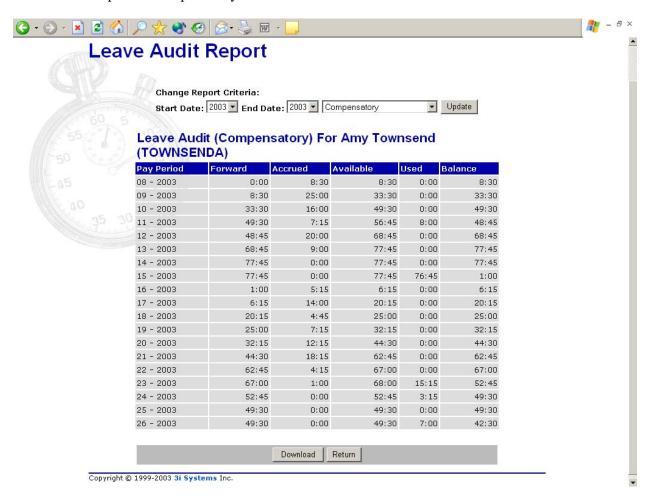
That action will open a window in which to view the certified record. **This is a read-only screen**. If changes to a previous pay period are required, the Timekeeper must create a corrected T&A record to be validated and certified. Certified corrections are submitted to the NFC with the current pay period.

# AUTOMATED LEAVE AUDITS

The HR Administrator has access to system-generated audits for the following leave categories: annual leave, sick leave, credit hours, compensatory leave, religious compensatory leave, shore leave, home leave, restored annual leave, time-off awards, Leave Without Pay (LWOP), Away Without Official Leave (AWOL), Suspension, Furlough, Emergency Military Leave, Regular Military Leave.

In the future when the Leave Module of WebTA is activated, audits for leave used under both the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program and the Emergency Leave Transfer Program will also be available.

Here is an example of a compensatory leave audit:



The HR Administrator can download audits so that they may be sent to the Supervisor, Timekeeper, and/or Employee. It is important to note that these audits reflect what was submitted to NFC through WebTA and are not necessarily reflective of the NFC balances. The two systems must be compared to ensure no leave errors exist.

**NOTE:** NOAA has requested a few enhancements to this WebTA feature. First, that Family Friendly Medical Leave and transaction codes relating to union activities be added to the list of pay types for which automatic audits may be generated. Additionally, we have requested that the ability to generate these audits be granted to at least the Timekeeper and Supervisor roles in the near future.

# **SECURITY FEATURES**

<u>Privacy</u> One of the important improvements gained by converting to WebTA is that privacy information, such as social security numbers, is far more secure than in past systems. The social security number is only visible in the Employee Profile screen (blank sample follows) and will no longer appear on the printed report. Supervisors do not have access to the Employee Profile screen.



<u>Access</u> As previously stated, Netscape (version 7.1 or higher) may be used to access WebTA but, generally speaking, **Internet Explorer** (version 5.5 or higher) is the better choice for this application.

Never use your browser forward and back keys as they will cause you to be disconnected from WebTA, and you may lose any unsaved data. Instead, always use the button options at the bottom of the screen (Save, Cancel, Return, etc.)

**Passwords** All passwords must comply with Department of Commerce policy:

- Be at least 8 characters in length
- Contain at least 1 alpha, 1 numeric and 1 non-numeric special character (!#\$\%^&\*, etc.)
- 6 characters may only occur once in the password (e.g., 'AAAAAA1' is not acceptable, but 'A%rmp2g3' and 'A%ArmA2g3' are acceptable)
- Is case-sensitive
- Can't be common words, manufacturer defaults, user names, words found in dictionaries, or common character sequences (e.g., 3456, ghijk, Doejohn, 2468, etc.)
- 7 days prior to expiration, you are warned and given an opportunity to change your password at that time. Failure to change an expired password results in access to the system being denied. If this occurs, you will need to contact your Timekeeper to have your password reset.
- Passwords cannot be reused for at least 365 days or 10 changes (whichever is longer).

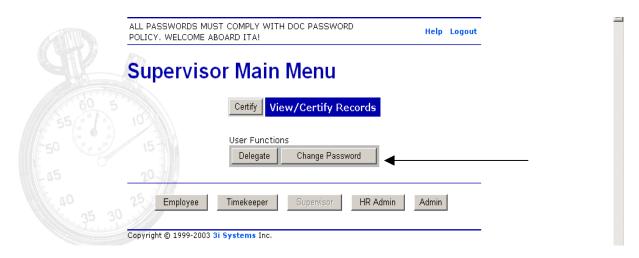
After three consecutive unsuccessful attempts to log in, your account will be disabled and your Timekeeper or HR Administrator must then unlock your account. If you forget your password, you will need to contact your Timekeeper to have a new password established.

After a period of inactivity (about 10 minutes), you will be automatically logged out of WebTA.

**Rules of Behavior** All users of WebTA are required to agree to the terms outlined in the Rules of Behavior document (see Appendix A). The Timekeeper must maintain a signed copy of the Rules of Behavior for each employee. The signed document is filed in the T&A file for each individual employee.

# CHANGING YOUR PASSWORD

At the **Supervisor Main Menu** screen, scroll down to the User functions and **Click** on the **Change Password** button.



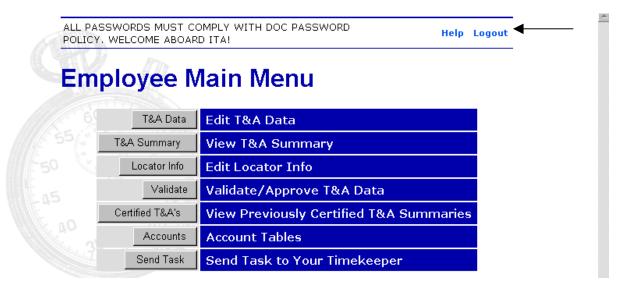
The **Change Password** screen now appears.



To change your password, type in your current password once. Use your mouse or tab key to move to the next field and type in your new password. Repeat the new password in the next field. Remember, passwords *are* case-sensitive and must comply with DOC password policies. **Click** the **Save** button to save your new password and to return to the **Supervisor Main Menu**. Changing your password in *any* of your WebTA roles changes your password for *all* of your WebTA roles.

# LOGGING OUT OF WebTA

When you desire to log out of WebTA, **click** on the blue "**Logout**" located at the top right of any screen.



This action takes you back to the **WebTA Login** screen. Simply **Close** the application by **clicking** on the "**X**" button in the top right corner of your screen, as you would to close any application.

# OVERVIEW OF OTHER ROLES WITHIN WebTA

Remember, there are five roles within WebTA: Employee, Timekeeper, Supervisor, HR Administrator and Administrator. Once you gain a little experience with WebTA, you will soon learn that the other roles support your supervisory duties. Specifically, the HR Administrator and the Timekeeper perform functions that will assist you.

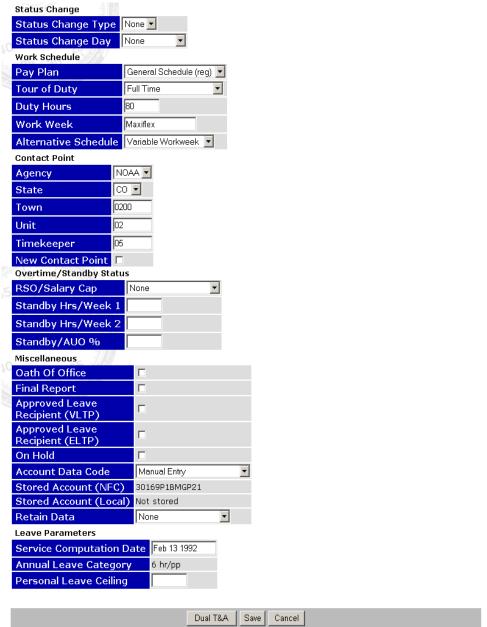
Your HR Administrator can assist you with the following:

- Identifying an existing employee's User ID
- Adding new employees to WebTA
- Assigning roles within WebTA
- Changing your WebTA organizational tree
- Tracking the status of WebTA Records for the current pay period
- Resetting employee passwords
- WebTA employee leave audits
- Editing account templates
- Importing Employee Data from other systems

As previously noted, WebTA is designed for data entry and validation by either the Employee or Timekeeper. In addition to that potential role, the Timekeeper has numerous other functions including, but not limited to:

- Establishing Employee Profiles for new employees.
- Establishing initial passwords, unlocking password accounts, and resetting passwords, as necessary.

• Entering and maintaining all information on the T&A Profile for each employee. A sample of such a screen is outlined below:



- Establishing Default Schedules for affected employees, as necessary.
- Tracking the status of all T&A Records to ensure that all records are validated and certified prior to the required deadline.
- Maintaining and/or assisting employee with the Locator Information.
- Notifying all users of WebTA announcements such as accelerated payroll processing deadlines, upgrades to the system, etc.
- Processing all corrections for all affected employees.
- Processing split T&A records, as needed.
- Assisting the Time & Attendance Liaisons with rejected timesheets.
- Establishing the Table of Accounts.
- Maintaining the Timekeeper Contact Point number
- Entering changes in assigned Timekeepers and Supervisors.

- Initially establishing and then maintaining individual employee leave balances (adjustments to correct errors, enter Time Off Awards, Restored Annual Leave, Donated Leave, etc.)
- Clearing leave errors.

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

There are many pay and leave rules which directly affect time and attendance. It is imperative that you have an understanding of these rules and to help you in that pursuit, listed below are additional resources available to you:

#### **Manuals:**

- Time & Attendance Manual, Department of Commerce, July 1994 (your timekeeper should have a hard copy; this manual is not online)
- Handbook on Hours of Duty & Leave Administration
  - o http://ohrm.doc.gov/handbooks/leave.htm
- Pay Handbook, Part I, General Pay
  - o http://ohrm.doc.gov/handbooks/pay\_manual.htm
- Pay Handbook, Part II, Premium Pay
  - o http://ohrm.doc.gov/handbooks/premium pay manual.htm
- Handbook on Alternative Work Schedules
  - o http://www.opm.gov/oca/aws/index.htm

# Websites:

- http://www.masc.noaa.gov/
  - o Leave/Time & Attendance Home Page
    - http://www.masc.noaa.gov/masc/hrd/leaveta.html
- http://www.easc.noaa.gov/
- http://www.wasc.noaa.gov/
- http://www.rdc.noaa.gov/~casc/main.html

# **T&A Liaisons:**

- Your Timekeeper/Administrative Officer
- NOAA Time & Attendance Services Office Boulder, CO

# **Training Classes:**

Conducted regularly by the NOAA Time & Attendance Services Office

- WebTA training for Employees
- WebTA training for Supervisors
- WebTA training for Timekeepers
- DOS training for Timekeepers
- Advanced Timekeeping
- Customized Classes

# APPENDIX A: RULES OF BEHAVIOR

The Rules of Behavior provide guidelines for the use of Department of Commerce (DOC) information technology (IT) resources operated at the Department's facilities. The purpose of these guidelines is to increase individual awareness and responsibility, as well as to ensure that all users utilize information technology (IT) resources in an efficient, ethical, and lawful manner. Once completed, the Rules of Behavior are to be maintained by each user office.

I understand that the following must be read and acknowledged in order to be granted access to WebTA:

- 1. I will only use the UserId for which I am authorized and will not divulge my UserId or account access procedures to an unauthorized user.
- 2. I consent to monitoring and security testing to ensure proper security procedures and appropriate usage are being observed for WebTA.
- 3. I understand that I am required to report all observed compromises of IT security (viruses, unauthorized access, theft, inappropriate use, etc.) to my immediate supervisor.
- 4. I will not make or use unauthorized copies of copyrighted software, except as permitted by law or the owner of the copyright.
- 5. I understand that IT resources, including e-mail accounts, are for authorized Government use only. I agree not to use WebTA for fraudulent, harassing, or sexually explicit messages and/or materials. Additionally, I will not send, retain, nor proliferate any such material on Government systems.
- 6. I am responsible for protecting and maintaining to the best of my ability any information used or stored in my accounts. I will not attempt to access any data or programs contained on systems for which I am not authorized nor have explicit consent of the data/program manager.
- 7. When I no longer require access to WebTA, I will notify my immediate supervisor, and make no further attempt to access these resources.
- 8. I understand that for access to WebTA, users are required to invoke a login process requiring a UserId and password.
- 9. I understand that passwords are required for accounts for WebTA. I will manage my password in accordance with the DOC Policy for Managing Passwords and any password policy within my operating unit.
- 10. I will logoff the network when I need to be away from my office for more than 5 minutes, and shutdown the system or use a password-protected screen saver or security package that prevents unauthorized access to my personal computer.
- 11. I understand that remote access to the network (e.g., while teleworking) poses additional security risks. I will comply with established DOC policies and guidelines for remote access of network services.
- 12. I understand that use of the Internet places a great deal of trust and responsibility at the employee/supervisor level. I will comply with the tenets of the DOC Internet Use Policy.
- 13. I acknowledge that I have received and successfully completed IT Security Awareness training in accordance with all DOC IT Security policies.

I further understand that failure to abide by these guidelines may constitute grounds for termination of access privileges, administrative actions, and/or criminal prosecution, if warranted. All signatures are required prior to approval and granting of WebTA privileges by the WebTA administrator.

User Name:	
Office or Organization:	
Bureau/Organization:	
Signature	Date